

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 02433 172339Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3936

UNCLAS QUITO 2433

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EC, SHUM
SUBJECT: GOE FONMIN SALVADOR'S ARGENTINA COMMENTS ABOUT US HUMAN
RIGHTS POLICY

REF: QUITO 2419

1. BELOW FOLLOWS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF COMMENTS GOE FONMIN
JORGE SALVADOR LARA MADE TO THE ARGENTINE PRESS AND PRINTED
IN LA OPINION (BUENOS AIRES) ON APRIL 7. THE TEXT OF THE
REMARKS WAS GIVEN TO THE AMBASSADOR BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER
(SEE REFTEL). THE QUESTION ASKED BY THE ARGENTINE REPORTER
WAS "YOU HAVE EXPRESSED YOUR INTEREST WITH WHICH ECUADOR HAS
FOLLOWED THE DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE US ON
THE PROBLEM OF CREDITS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF MILITARY MATERIEL.
YOU HAVE NOTED ALSO THE DIFFICULTIES FOR ECUADOR RESULTING
FROM ITS JOINING OPEC. COULD YOU EXPAND ON THOSE SUBJECTS?
HOW DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN
AMERICA AND THE US, BEGINNING WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION OF
PRESIDENT CARTER?

2. THERE IS A COINCIDENTAL ASPECT BETWEEN THE NEW POLICY
OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE LATIN AMERICAN CONCEPTION.
IT IS THE PUTTING INTO PRACTICE OF ETHICAL VALUES OF
CHRISTIAN INSPIRATION. I AM SURE THAT AFTER THE FIRST
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POSITIONS OF PRESIDENT CARTER, MOTIVATED BY A RIGID
PURITANISM, THERE WILL BE ADJUSTMENTS MADE THAT MORE
CLOSELY APPROXIMATE REALITY, AND THAT WILL OVERCOME THE
CONFRONTATIONS THAT THERE HAVE BEEN WITH LATIN AMERICA,
PRECISELY ON THOSE SUBJECTS WHERE THERE SHOULD BE A DRAW-
ING NEAR.
IT DOES NOT APPEAR REALISTIC TO BASE AMERICAN FOREIGN

POLICY ENTIRELY ON SUCH SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA AS HUMAN RIGHTS, THAT UPON EXAMINATION, HAVE THEIR OWN CHANNEL IN THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. IN THE AFOREMENTIONED ORGANIZATION, ECUADOR HAS DRAWN ATTENTION TO THE DANGER THAT IT MIGHT CEASE BEING A HUMAN-ITARIAN ORGAN (THAT IS ITS ONLY END) AND BECOME A POLITICAL ORGAN WHICH, ON THE BASIS OF COMMITTED VOTES, EXAMINES WITH A MAGNIFYING GLASS CERTAIN OR PRESUMED CASES OF THE VIOLATION OF THOSE (HUMAN) RIGHTS IN LATIN AMERICA, WHILE OTHER OMNIOUS CASES OF VIOLATIONS ON OTHER CONTINENTS ARE SILENCED, EVEN BY THE UNITED STATES. FOR EXAMPLE, IT IS SYMPTOMATIC THAT TO THE MOMENT THERE HAS BEEN NO CONDEMNATION OF IDI AMIN DATA IN THAT COMMISSION. THEREFORE, THE LATEST ATTITUDE OF PRESIDENT CARTER NECESSARILY REQUIRES A READJUSTMENT. CORR

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Message Attributes

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